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* A/42/150.

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN
STATES
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

Letter dated 13 August 1987 from the Permanent Representative of
Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the following documents issued at the Twentieth Ministerial Meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), held in Singapore on 15 and 16 June 1987:

1. Excerpts from Joint Communiqué of the Twentieth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held on 15 and 16 June 1987 (annex I);
2. Full text of Joint Statement by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on Indo-Chinese refugees, issued in Singapore on 14 June 1987 (annex II);
3. Full text of Joint Statement by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the situation in southern Africa, issued on 16 June 1987.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the aforementioned documents attached hereto circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 24, 31, 33, 38, 39, 42, 48, 63, 65, 70, 73, 83, 86, 104, 105, 131 and 140 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. L. Birabhongse KASEMSRI
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

Excerpts from Joint Communiqué of the Twentieth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, held in Singapore on 15 and 16 June 1987

Situation in Kampuchea

18. The Foreign Ministers examined the situation in Kampuchea and expressed their deep concern over Viet Nam's continued illegal occupation of Kampuchea. The Foreign Ministers reiterated ASEAN's conviction that Viet Nam's military occupation of Kampuchea constituted a flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of international law embodied in the Charter of the United Nations. Viet Nam's military occupation of Kampuchea, now in its ninth year, also violated the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States and the right of the Kampuchean people to self-determination. The invasion and occupation of Kampuchea by Viet Nam continue to pose a grave threat to peace and stability in South-East Asia, thus endangering international peace and security.
19. The Foreign Ministers viewed with concern Viet Nam's continued reliance on a military solution in Kampuchea. They deplored the Vietnamese artillery attacks on civilian refugee camps along the Thai-Kampuchean border and Vietnamese violation of Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity through military incursions. They condemned Viet Nam for its occupation of the hills at Chong Bok inside Thailand and called upon Viet Nam to withdraw its troops from Thai territory. The Foreign Ministers also reiterated their full support for Thailand's actions in the exercise of its legitimate right of self-defence and reaffirmed their solidarity with the Government and people of Thailand.
20. The Foreign Ministers once again called for a comprehensive political settlement in Kampuchea based on a total withdrawal of foreign forces, the restoration of Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, self-determination for the Kampuchean people under United Nations auspices and the achievement of national reconciliation in Kampuchea. They called upon Viet Nam to accept an independent, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea.
21. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the validity of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Joint Appeal for Kampuchean Independence of 20 September 1983 and reiterated their support for the CGDK's eight-point proposal of 17 March 1986 (see A/41/225-S/17927, annex II), as a constructive framework for negotiations. They urged Viet Nam to reconsider its rejection of the eight-point proposal. They also called upon the international community to continue to support the Proposal.
22. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their support for the CGDK under the Presidency of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. They were heartened by the military successes achieved by the nationalist resistance forces against the Vietnamese occupation.
23. The Foreign Ministers also recorded their warm appreciation to the international community for its continued support of the CGDK. They saw the overwhelming support for the resolution on the situation in Kampuchea at the forty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly as clear evidence of the international community's disapproval of Viet Nam's continued occupation of

Kampuchea. The Foreign Ministers also expressed their gratitude to the President of the International Conference on Kampuchea (ICK), His Excellency Leopold Gratz, for his untiring efforts in helping to find a solution to the Kampuchean problem. Recognizing the important contributions made by the ICK-Ad Hoc Committee, they also expressed their sincere thanks to its Chairman, His Excellency Massamba Sarré of Senegal and to all its members for their commitment to a peaceful settlement.

24. The Foreign Ministers recorded their gratitude to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, for his commendable efforts in the search for a comprehensive political settlement to the Kampuchean problem in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and also to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia, His Excellency Raffaeudin Ahmed. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their belief that the United Nations has an important and constructive role to play in the search for a political solution to the Kampuchean problem.

25. The Foreign Ministers reviewed the diplomatic efforts of ASEAN to help achieve a comprehensive and durable political settlement for the Kampuchean problem. They reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to continue efforts in seeking such a solution in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on the situation in Kampuchea. In this regard, they expressed their appreciation to the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, His Excellency Professor Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, for the useful role he has played as ASEAN's interlocutor with Viet Nam and his endeavours to explore and broaden the options available for a settlement to the Kampuchean problem.

26. The Foreign Ministers were of the view that Viet Nam's basic position on Kampuchea has not changed, despite its recent attempts to give the impression of flexibility. This was also evident in Viet Nam's outright rejection of the CGDK's eight-point proposal. They deplored the lack of any genuine effort so far on the part of Viet Nam for a political settlement as called for by an overwhelming majority of countries in the United Nations. They hoped that new leadership in Viet Nam will show a willingness to find a political settlement to the Kampuchean problem.

27. The Foreign Ministers called upon the international community not to forget the plight of the Kampuchean people in their just struggle against the Vietnamese aggression. They called on all countries, including the Soviet Union, to urge Viet Nam to settle the Kampuchean problem peacefully.

Indo-Chinese refugees

28. The Foreign Ministers reviewed the refugee situation and expressed deep concern over the serious plight of Kampuchean refugees and displaced persons uprooted because of the continuing Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea. The Ministers deplored the shelling and firing into civilian camps at the Thai-Kampuchean border. They recalled in particular the Vietnamese shelling on 31 May 1987 of the United Nations assisted Site 2 camp on Thai soil in which seven Kampuchean were killed and several wounded. They condemned the Vietnamese military incursions into Thai territory. These incidents have caused casualties

not only to the civilian Kampuchean population but also to the Thai villagers living near the border.

29. The Foreign Ministers noted that since the invasion of Kampuchea in 1978, hundreds of thousands of Indo-Chinese refugees have fled their countries and have taken temporary refuge in the ASEAN countries. They were gravely concerned that while resettlement in third countries was slowing down, the influx of Vietnamese refugees and illegal immigrants by sea to the ASEAN countries, especially Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia has continued unabated.

30. The Foreign Ministers were in agreement that the responsibility for the continuing exodus of Indo-Chinese refugees and illegal immigrants and their suffering and hardship lay with Viet Nam. They called upon Viet Nam to put an end to the exodus of refugees and illegal immigrants to the neighbouring countries. To emphasize their grave concern over the seriousness of the refugee problem, the Foreign Ministers issued a Joint Statement on 14 June 1987.

31. The Foreign Ministers appealed to the international community to continue to render assistance in relieving the plight of the Indo-Chinese refugees and displaced persons, especially those living along the Thai-Kampuchean border who have the greatest and the most urgent need for such international assistance while the conflict in Kampuchea continues. In their view, these refugees and displaced persons should ultimately be resettled in third countries or voluntarily repatriated to their countries of origin. While the Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the continuing adherence of the ASEAN countries to the generally accepted humanitarian principles, they also reiterated the understanding that there should be no residual refugee problem in the ASEAN countries.

32. The Foreign Ministers thanked the United Nations Secretary-General for his continuing support and humanitarian role in helping to alleviate the plight of Indo-Chinese refugees and displaced persons. The Foreign Ministers also commended the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for his assistance and continuing efforts in the Indo-Chinese refugee resettlement programme and in the screening of Laotian refugees in Thailand. They also commended the UNHCR for organizing the Orderly Departure Programme (ODP) from Viet Nam, which is one of the means of resettlement of the refugees in third countries. They also recorded their sincere gratitude to the former United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Co-ordination of Kampuchean Humanitarian Assistance Programmes, Mr. Tatsuro Kunugi, for his outstanding contribution. They welcomed his successor, Mr. S. A. M. S. Kibria, to the post and assured him of their co-operation. The Ministers also reiterated their deep appreciation to the United Nations Border Relief Operation (UNBRO) for its commendable contribution, in co-operation with the World Food Programme, the Office of the UNHCR, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other organizations and voluntary agencies concerned, towards relieving the sufferings of the Indo-Chinese refugees and displaced persons.

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Drugs

41. The Foreign Ministers expressed satisfaction with the close co-operation among ASEAN Senior Officials on Drugs, and between and among member countries in combating illicit drugs, and commended the continued efforts and contributions made by non-governmental organizations in the eradication of drug abuse. The Foreign Ministers commended the recent workshop to establish an ASEAN Network of Parents' Movement against Drug Abuse. Further encouragement should be given to involve parents in complementing governmental efforts to combat drug abuse among the younger generation.

42. The Foreign Ministers commended the untiring efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General and those of the various bodies within the United Nations system in combating the drug problem. The Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction that ASEAN's efforts in soliciting the support of the international community to co-operate intensively in combating the spread of drug abuse and trafficking had achieved fruitful results. Pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 40/122 of 13 December 1985, the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking will be held in Vienna from 17 to 26 June 1987. ASEAN expressed its gratitude and appreciation to those countries which had given their support for the candidatures of Malaysia and Thailand for the posts of President and Vice-President of the Conference, respectively. At that Conference, ASEAN will play a leading role to ensure that the fight against the drug menace will be waged relentlessly by the international community.

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International economic issues

56. In reviewing the international economic environment, the Foreign Ministers noted the weak economic growth of the developed economies and the adverse effects it had on the growth and development prospects of the developing countries. They expressed grave concern over the proliferation of protectionist policies, pressures and measures in developed countries, the continued depressed level of commodity prices; the instability of exchange rates; and the lack of a comprehensive solution to the world debt situation. The Foreign Ministers expressed the hope that these obstacles to growth in both the developed and developing countries would be addressed seriously and expeditiously by the international community with the view to arriving at appropriate solutions for sustained global economic growth.

57. The Foreign Ministers noted that, despite the successful launch of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, the developed countries had failed to observe the standstill and rollback commitments undertaken at Punta del Este. The Foreign Ministers were concerned with the increased tendency to resort to unilateral and bilateral measures outside the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in settling trade problems and disputes. This had led to a weakening of GATT and the increased danger of trade wars. The Foreign Ministers emphasized the importance of maintaining and strengthening the open trading system as embodied by GATT. They called upon all countries to actively support GATT and to strengthen the rules of international trade through co-operative efforts in the Uruguay Round.

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58. The Foreign Ministers further called upon developed countries to remove all agricultural subsidies and other measures which distort trade in agriculture and to allow the principles of comparative advantage to apply.

59. The Foreign Ministers reiterated the importance of commodity earnings to developing countries. The current situation of depressed commodity prices had severely affected the terms of trade of ASEAN and other developing countries. The Foreign Ministers called for concerted international action to arrive at practical solutions to ensure stable and more remunerative commodity prices.

60. The Foreign Ministers expressed their concern over the adverse effects of fluctuating exchange rates on the growth of world trade and the difficulties created for developing countries, particularly in the planning and execution of their debt servicing, debt management and trading activities. The Foreign Ministers called for international action to ensure stability of currency markets.

61. The Foreign Ministers viewed with concern the continuing debt problem in many developing countries. They expressed regret that a comprehensive solution to the debt burden of the developing countries had still not been found. This has threatened the international financial system and affected the growth prospects of both developed and developing countries. The Foreign Ministers called for urgent international action to rectify the situation.

62. The Foreign Ministers noted the growing trend of developed countries to invest in other developed countries to overcome trade barriers. They reiterated the need for a greater flow of investments from developed countries to developing countries. The Foreign Ministers also expressed their concern that the lack of investments would reduce the transfer of technology to the developing countries.

63. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their support for the forthcoming seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. The Conference would provide an opportunity for developing and developed countries to discuss the problems which hamper growth, to work closely together to arrive at solutions for the revitalization of the global economy and to create a more responsive environment for sustained growth and development of developing countries.

Commission on South-South Co-operation

64. The Foreign Ministers were encouraged by the support of many of the developing countries for the establishment of the Independent Commission of the South on Development Issues under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Dr. Julius Nyerere. They noted with satisfaction that the secretariat of the Commission would be established soon. They called upon all countries of the South to support the work of the Commission.

Disarmament

65. The Foreign Ministers, despite their persistent and grave concern with the continuing escalation of the global arms race, particularly in its nuclear dimension, noted with interest some encouraging developments in multilateral and

bilateral arms limitation and disarmament endeavours, including the bilateral negotiations on intermediate range nuclear forces in Geneva. They appealed to all countries, particularly the major Powers, to demonstrate political will and to engage in genuine dialogue and negotiations towards the removal and destruction of nuclear and chemical weapons. To this end, the major Powers should take into account the security concerns of all States and not merely their own global strategic interests.

66. The Foreign Ministers recognized that the decision to convene the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament is timely owing to the profound sense of urgency with which Members of the United Nations view the danger of the incalculable consequences inherent in the continuation of the arms race and which portend a new spiral in its nuclear aspect. The Foreign Ministers expressed the hope that it should be held in 1988 as called for in General Assembly resolution 41/60 G of 3 December 1986.

67. The Foreign Ministers looked forward to the convening of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development to be held in New York from 24 August to 11 September 1987. They expressed the hope that all the members of the United Nations, especially States that possess the largest military arsenals and most developed States, would participate actively in the Conference to ensure its success, in an earnest effort to promote economic and social development of all nations through the implementation of disarmament measures.

West Asia

68. The Foreign Ministers viewed with concern the unresolved Arab-Israeli conflict. They reiterated their full support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination, and the restoration of Arab sovereignty over their occupied territories. The Foreign Ministers called for renewed efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement by negotiations. Towards this end, they expressed support for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations. As regards the Iran-Iraq War, the Foreign Ministers renewed their appeal for an end to the war and called for a just and honourable solution of the conflict.

Afghanistan

69. The Foreign Ministers agreed that the occupation of Afghanistan by foreign forces is of grave concern to the international community and continues to be a major source of international instability. They reiterated their call for the total withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan and the restoration of the inherent right of the Afghan people to freely determine their own destiny. They were of the firm view that a sovereign, independent and non-aligned Afghanistan is essential for regional and global peace and stability. They also reiterated their support for the United Nations Secretary-General's efforts to bring about a comprehensive political settlement of the problem.

ANNEX II

Joint Statement by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on Indo-Chinese
refugees, issued in Singapore on 14 June 1987

1. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers discussed the problem of refugees and displaced persons or illegal immigrants from Indo-China at the beginning of the Twentieth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Singapore on 14 June 1987.
2. Recalling their statements on the same subject made in Bangkok on 13 January 1979 and in Kuala Lumpur on 16 August 1979, as well as the joint communiqués of the respective ASEAN Ministerial Meetings held since, the Foreign Ministers expressed their grave concern and serious dissatisfaction over the continued influx of these people into the ASEAN countries. They reiterated their firm conviction that the influx from Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea would continue to cause severe economic, social, political and security problems in the ASEAN countries, particularly in Thailand and Malaysia which have had to bear the main brunt of the refugee problem.
3. The Foreign Ministers recalled the understanding reached at the United Nations Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, held at Geneva in 1979, whereby the ASEAN countries would only provide temporary refuge to such people pending their resettlement in third countries or their return to their respective homelands. The Foreign Ministers expressed their concern over the compassion fatigue among the resettlement countries resulting in a slow-down in the resettlement programme which would increase the residual problem of refugees in ASEAN countries. The Foreign Ministers continue to be convinced that resettlement remains the appropriate solution to this problem. Efforts should be intensified to achieve these objectives. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the stand of the ASEAN countries that local integration in their respective countries is not a viable option.
4. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their belief that the continuation of the refugee problem would cause grave difficulties to the ASEAN countries and seriously affect stability in the region. Considering that the problem continues to build up, the Foreign Ministers also agreed on the urgency for increased efforts towards solving the problem at its source. They were of the view that as the problem originated with Viet Nam, Viet Nam should, in conformity with humanitarian principles and in the interest of regional peace, stability and harmony, take the necessary steps to solve the problem at its source. They also called upon Viet Nam to desist from perpetuating conditions which give rise to and help prolong the problem of refugees and displaced persons or illegal immigrants from Indo-China.
5. The Foreign Ministers strongly urged Viet Nam to take measures to remove the causes of departures by boat of people from Viet Nam and to earnestly co-operate with the UNHCR and the resettlement countries in ensuring the success of the Orderly Departure Programme. They appealed to the Government of Viet Nam to accept the voluntary repatriation of those who wish to return to Viet Nam. The Government of Laos is also requested to accept the voluntary repatriation of Laotian refugees who wish to return.

6. The Foreign Ministers expressed their appreciation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for his efforts in finding a solution to the problem, and to the third countries for contributing towards the resettlement of the Vietnamese and other Indo-Chinese refugees or illegal immigrants. The Foreign Ministers urged the resettlement countries not to reduce their intake or to impose conditions which would make resettlement more difficult. They reiterated the willingness of the ASEAN countries to work closely with the resettlement countries and the UNHCR to find a durable solution to the problem.

ANNEX III

Joint Statement by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the situation
in southern Africa, issued in Singapore on 16 June 1987

1. The Foreign Ministers expressed grave concern over the decision of the racist Pretoria régime to extend the state of emergency which will aggravate the crisis in South Africa. They strongly condemned this action.
2. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their condemnation of the repressive policies and practices of the racist Pretoria régime which has led to the escalation of the strife and tension in South Africa and to the worsening of the suffering of the black majority under the inhuman apartheid system. They also condemned the holding of elections exclusively for the white minority in May 1987, in complete disregard and blatant defiance of world opinion.
3. The Foreign Ministers remain convinced that the inhuman apartheid system is the source of the conflict in the region. They reiterated their call upon the racist Pretoria régime to abolish the apartheid system, immediately revoke the state of emergency, end the repressive measures and release unconditionally all political prisoners and detainees. The Foreign Ministers firmly believe that the application of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, on the racist Pretoria régime is an urgent necessity as an effective means to achieve these objectives.
4. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their unflagging support for the legitimate struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa against the apartheid system and their pursuit of the establishment of a non-racial and democratic society based on majority rule. They pledged their solidarity with the people of South Africa and the front-line African States.
5. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their condemnation of the continued illegal occupation of Namibia and the imposition of the apartheid system there by the racist Pretoria régime. In this regard, they welcomed the important decisions of the Vienna International Conference for the Immediate Independence of Namibia, the fourteenth special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the question of Namibia and the Extraordinary Plenary Meeting of the Council for Namibia held last May in Luanda, as these reflected the total and unequivocal commitment of the international community to bring about, as early as possible, genuine independence to the Namibian people in a united Namibia.
6. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their full solidarity with the just struggle of the Namibian people, led by the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), their sole and authentic representative. They called upon the international community to maintain relentless pressure upon the racist Pretoria régime and to condemn its policies of aggression and destabilization against the frontline and other African States.